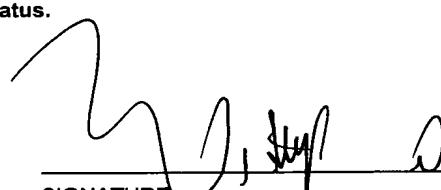


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|--|---|--|
| Substitute for Form<br>PTO-1390<br><b>TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES<br/>DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)<br/>CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371</b>   |   | U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE<br><br>ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER<br><b>022702-153</b><br><b>007582047</b><br>U.S. APPLICATION NO. (Unknown. See 37 CFR 1.5) |
| INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.<br><b>PCT/FR 2004/001681</b>   | INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE<br><b>JUNE 30, 2004</b> | PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED<br><b>JULY 4, 2003</b>   |
| <b>TITLE OF INVENTION</b>  |   |  |
| <b>PRODUCTION OF PEARLS BASED ON EXPANDED POLYMERS (as amended)</b>  |   |  |
| <b>APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US</b><br><b>Jean-Francois ESTUR, Eric ROCHE and Jean-Francois BRIOIS</b>  |   |  |
| Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:  |   |  |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a <b>FIRST</b> submission to items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.</li> <li>2. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a <b>SECOND</b> or <b>SUBSEQUENT</b> submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.</li> <li>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (22) indicated below.</li> <li>4. <input type="checkbox"/> The US has been elected by the expiration of 19 months from the priority date (Article 31).</li> <li>5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).</li> <li>b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has been communicated by the International Bureau.</li> <li>c. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).</li> </ul> </li> <li>6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto.</li> <li>b. <input type="checkbox"/> has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</li> </ul> </li> <li>7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <input type="checkbox"/> are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).</li> <li>b. <input type="checkbox"/> have been communicated by the International Bureau.</li> <li>c. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.</li> <li>d. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made.</li> </ul> </li> <li>8. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).</li> <li>9. <input type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)).</li> <li>10. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the annexes of the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).</li> </ol> |   |  |
| <b>Items 11 to 21 below concern document(s) or information included:</b>   |   |  |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>11. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.</li> <li>12. <input type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.</li> <li>13. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A <b>FIRST</b> preliminary amendment.</li> <li>14. <input type="checkbox"/> A <b>SECOND</b> or <b>SUBSEQUENT</b> preliminary amendment.</li> <li>15. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification.</li> <li>16. <input type="checkbox"/> A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.</li> <li>17. <input type="checkbox"/> A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 37 C.F.R. 1.821 - 1.825.</li> <li>18. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the published international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</li> <li>19. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</li> <li>20. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other items or information: <u>Unexecuted Declaration; International Search Report corresponding to PCT/FR 2004/001681 issued on January 18, 2005 - 5 pages; 2 Sheets of Drawings; Forms PCT/IB/304 and 308 and cited references</u></li> </ol>  |   |  |

|   |                               |   |
|---|-------------------------------|---|
| U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 CFR 1.5)   | INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. | ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER  |
| <b>10/562047</b>  | PCT/FR 2004/001681            | 022702-153  |
|   |                               | CALCULATIONS PTO USE ONLY                                       |
| 21. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applicant(s) requests that the published application include the following assignment information:<br>RHODIA POLYAMIDE INTERMEDIATES<br>AVENUE RAMBOZ<br>BP 33<br>F-69192 SAINT-FONS<br>FRANCE          |                               |   |
| 22. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The following fees are submitted:   |                               |   |
| Basic Filing Fee (1631)   |                               | \$ 300.00   |
| Surcharge of \$130.00 (1617) for furnishing the oath or declaration later than months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)).  |                               | <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30         |
| CLAIMS  | NUMBER FILED                  | NUMBER EXTRA  |
| Total Claims  | 23                            | -20 = 3   |
| Independent Claims  | 2                             | -3 = 0  |
| MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable)   |                               | + \$360.00 (1616)   |
| Examination Fee   |                               | + \$200.00 (1633)   |
| Search Fee  |                               | + \$400.00 (1632)   |
| App. Size Fee (add \$250.00 for each add'l 50 sheets exceeding 100 sheets)  |                               | \$ 0.00   |
| TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS   |                               | \$ 1,050.00   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. The fees indicated above are reduced by 1/2.  |                               | + \$ 0.00   |
|   |                               | SUBTOTAL  |
| Processing fee of \$130.00 (1618) for furnishing the English translation later than months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)).   |                               | <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 \$ 0.00 |
|   |                               | TOTAL NATIONAL FEE  |
| Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 (8021) per property +   |                               | \$ 0.00   |
|   |                               | TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED   |
|   |                               | \$ 1,050.00   |
|   |                               | Amount to be refunded :   |
|   |                               | charged :   |
| a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of <u>1,050.00</u> to cover the above fees is enclosed.  |                               |   |
| b. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. <u>02-4800</u> in the amount of _____ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.   |                               |   |
| c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. <u>02-4800</u> . A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. |                               |   |
| d. <input type="checkbox"/> Charge _____ to credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.   |                               |   |
| NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.                                       |                               |   |
| SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:   |                               |   |
| Buchanan Ingersoll PC<br>Including attorneys from Burns, Doane, Swecker & Mathis<br>P.O. Box 1404<br>Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404<br>(703) 836-6620  |                               |   |
|   |                               | SIGNATURE   |
|   |                               | NORMAN H. STEPNO  |
| NAME  |                               |   |
| 22716   |                               | DECEMBER 23, 2005   |
| REGISTRATION NO.  |                               | DATE  |